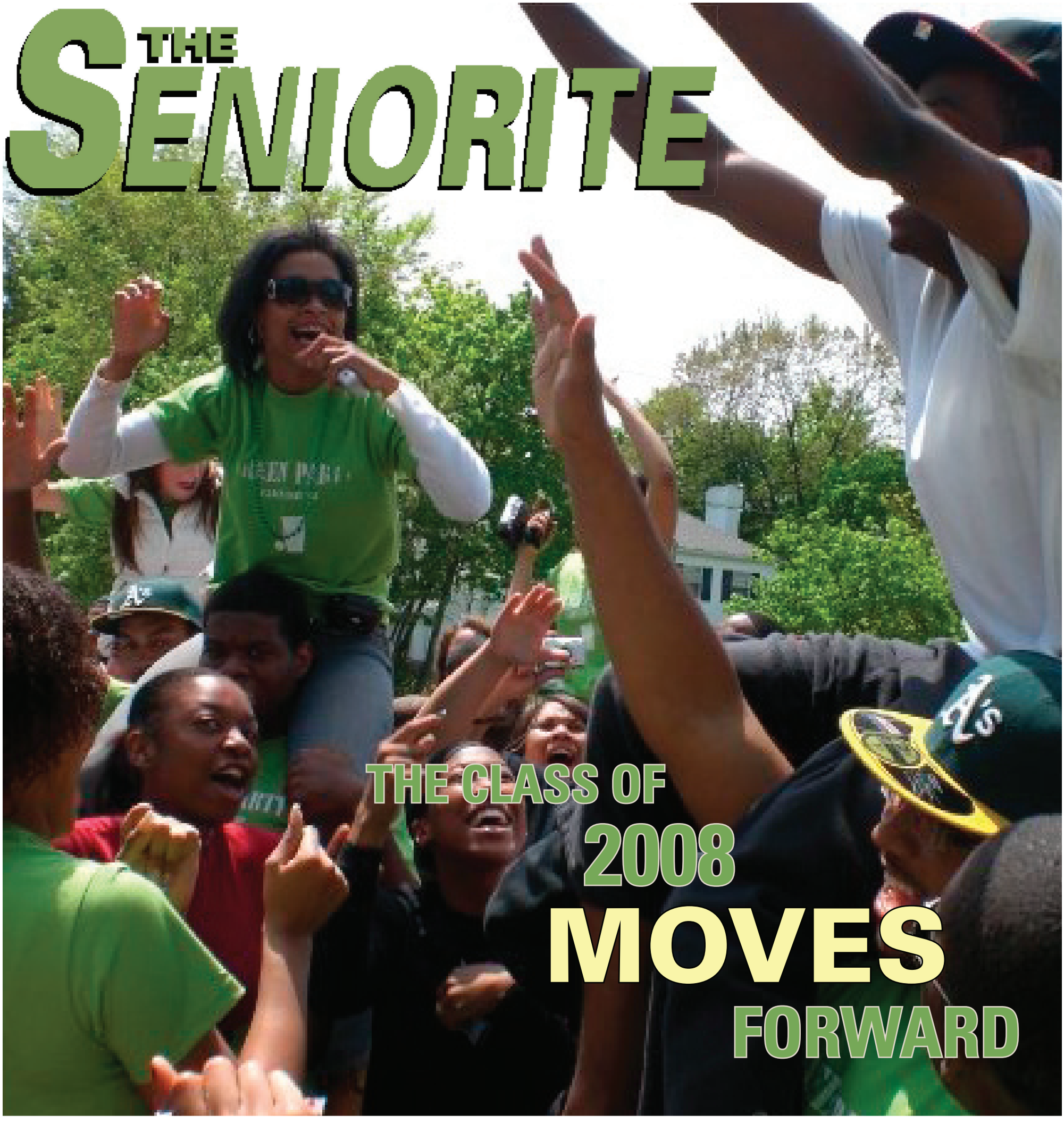
THE SENIORITE



THE CLASS OF 2008 MOVES FORWARD

THE CLASS OF 2008 . . .

- HAS **396** STUDENTS
- HAS ATTENDED **17** SCHOOL DANCES
- HAS **72** LEAVING THE STATE OF OHIO NEXT YEAR
- HAS **40** NATIONAL MERIT STUDENTS
- PLAYED ON **20** SPORTS TEAMS

THE SENIORITE
06.03.08

SENIORS ANNOUNCE NEXT STEP IN LIFE

Shaker's seniors leave the high school halls and move on to the next chapter of their lives

A

Robert Abrams – Wheaton College
Alexandra Aggon – Texas Christian University
Tabitha Anderson – Kent State University
Dani Arndt – Cleveland State University

B

Dena Balk – Clark University
Nia Bailey – Shaw University
Mere Banchek – University of Cincinnati (Spring)
David Barach – Wesleyan University
John Beard – University of Akron
Faith Bell – Kenyon College
Carlye Bellamy – Otterbein College
Ron Bennett – Alabama State University
Brianna Blackwood-Mallory – Vassar College
Thomas Bostwick – Syracuse University
Meredith Boyd – University of Rochester
Nico Boyd – The Ohio State University
Hartley Brody – Bowdoin University
Chris Broune – Southern University
Julian Bruell – Cornell University
Remi Bruell – University of Kansas
Lisa Buffo – Miami University of Ohio
Inna Burroughs – Miami University of Ohio

C

Natalia Cabrera – Case Western Reserve University
Teddy Cahill – Ball State University
Will Caldes – University of South Carolina
Emily Cameron – Miami University of Ohio
Christina Casal – Davidson University
Lauren Chapman – Ohio Wesleyan University
Max Chernin – University of Cincinnati
Dan Clougherty – The Ohio State University
Alyssa Cohen – University of Rochester
Alyssa Collin – DePauw University
Brian Corrigan – Wittenberg University

D

Heather Dabney – Denison University
Josh Davidson – Oberlin College
Ciera Davis – University of Toledo
Christian Dear – The University of Louisville
Alex Dimeff – University of Michigan
Su Dong – Miami University of Ohio
Chris Durbin – Cedarville University
Aaron Dunn – Baldwin-Wallace College

E

Sarah Edgerton – Denison University
Allie Emrich – The Ohio State University
Eden Engel-Rebitzer – Wesleyan University
Harold Erkins – Syracuse University

F

Megan Findling – New York University
Dante Fitzgerald – The University of Toledo
Wilson Fraser – Denison University
Brittany Ford – Kent State University
Courtney Fort – Ohio University
Katherine Foster – Washington University in St. Louis

G

Kirsten Gassman – The University of Texas at Austin
Ethan Gates – Amherst College
Haowen Ge – Mount Union College
Amanda Goldman – Ohio University
Allison Goodman – Vassar College
Tyler C Graves – The University of Toledo
Brittany Greene – Cleveland State University
Samantha Greene – University of Toledo
John Gruber – Wittenberg University
Claire Gustafson – Ohio University

H

Joanna Hachtel – University of Alabama
Claire Hall – University of Michigan
Celina Hall – University at Buffalo
Courtney Hammonds – Hampton University
Christian Hanna – Southern Illinois University
Letonia Hardin – Howard University
Kate Haubrich – Boston University
Ben Heide – Guilford College
Cam Helffrich - University of Cincinnati
Greg Hering - University of Akron
Tim Hill – The Ohio State University
Kerry Howard – Miami University of Ohio
Shun Hu – Cleveland State University
Ashley Hughes – Duke University

I

Jaclyn Inglis – University of Rochester
Chris Irvine – New England Conservatory

J

Ashley Jackson – Kent State Univresity
Rachael Jaffe – Ohio University
Emily Janata – Tufts University
Andre Joiner - University of Akron
Justine Johnson - Cuyahoga Community College
Iesha Jones – University of Southern California

K

Sam Kahn – University of Kansas
Rachel Kaiser – Valporaiso University
Evan Kaufman – Bucknell University
Sam Keane – University of Vermont
Juliet Kibbe – University of Vermont
David Kim – Brown University
Esther Kim – Syracuse University
Danielle King – University of Akron
Harlan King – Kettering University
Annie Koznarck – Wittenberg University

L

Hannah Lawrence – Davidson University
Lauren Lewis – Elon University
Wesley Lowery – Ohio University

M

Antonio Tyree Martin – University of Toledo
Kate McCormick - University of Cincinnati
Kristen McCrae – The University of Vermont
Shaniqua McGinnis – The Ohio State University
River McWilliams – University at Buffalo
Whitney Mercer – Syracuse University
Jeremy Mill – University of Toledo
Monica Misra – Cornell University
Chris Mawhorter – Calvin College
Julia Murphy – College of Wooster
Adam Murray – Miami University of Ohio

N

Leah Newman – Fordham University
Lena Newman – Barnard College
Erik Nystrom – Bowling Green State University

O

Alison O'Connor – Scripps College
Bobby O'Connor – Wake Forest University
Maggie O'Connor – Columbia University
Meg O'Halloran – Macalester College
Robert Own – Duke University

P

Allison Paetz – Case Western Reserve University
Chris Parnell – University of Akron
Erica Payne – Ohio University
Emily Pek – Miami University of Ohio
Gregory Persons – University at Albany SUNY
Brittany Petures – Bowling Green State University
Catherine Phelps – University of Kentucky
Brittany Phillips – Cuyahoga Community College
Abigail Pink – Case Western Reserve University
Lillian Pitts - Miami University of Ohio
Dean Pohlman – University of Wisconsin - Madison
Susanna Pretzer – Carleton College
Shaynae Price – University of Akron

Q

Yue Qi – Case Western Reserve University
Megan Qua – Miami University of Ohio

R

Aaron Robbins – The Ohio State University
Emily Rogoff – University of Michigan
Scott Round – Franklin and Marshall College
Hannah Rosenblatt – Miami University of Ohio
Ali Russ – Ohio Wesleyan University
Samantha Russell – Cleveland State University
Katie Ryan – Kenyon College
Claire Rymond – Miami University of Ohio

S

Adam Sauerland – Miami University of Ohio
Isaiah Saunders - Cuyahoga Community College
Allison Scharfstein – Yale University
Natalie Schelling – Earlham College
Peter Schiraldi – Case Western Reserve University
Rebecca Semel – University of Michigan
Stephanie Sheeley – Ohio University
Khadeja Sherrill – Hiram College
Dan Shinkle – Cleveland Institute of Art
Joshua Silva – Miami University of Ohio
Steve Silver – University of Michigan
Brittany Smith – ITT Technical Institute (School of Criminal Justice)
Micah Spencer – Ohio University
Katie Spielman – Boston College
Brittany Stein – Ohio University
Amanda Stovicek – Heidelberg College
Dan Strassfeld – Princeton University
Emily Sullivan – College of the Holy Cross

T

Cyrus Taylor – Case Western Reserve University
Jewelisa Thompson – The Ohio State University
Viveca Tress – New York University
Jefferson Triozzi – Emory University
Mike Triozzi – The Ohio State University
Emily Tuttle – Fordham University

U

Greg Van Lunteren – Northwestern University

W

Alicia Watts - Allegheny College
Christina Wang – Cornell University
Sam Weir – Northwestern University
Porshe Wells – University of Cincinnati
Patrick White – Carnegie Mellon University
Kori Mi'Quel White – Finger Lakes Community College
Greg Williams – Nursing School
Julia Wilson – The Ohio State University
Jared Wise – Miami University of Ohio
Crystal Coninne Wood – Columbia College of Chicago
Wojo Woyczynski – Case Western Reserve University

Y

Mike Young – The Ohio State University
Sierra Young – Ball State University

Z

Cesare Zannoni – University of Mary Washington
Stephen Zawodzinski – Ohio Wesleyan University

THE SENIORITE
06.03.08

Senior Week: The 'best week of our lives'

It's over.

Four long years after, as a group of confused and immature freshman, we first entered the halls of Shaker Heights High School, the class of 2008 is forever parting from 15911 Aldersyde Drive.

WESLEY LOWERY

Much has changed since we first entered the high school.

Whether it be the banning of hats in the halls, the implementation of the up and down staircases or the installation of about 1000 new security cameras, SHHS is truly a different school than it was a mere four years ago; and, hopefully, we've all grown and matured during our high school years.

And now, as the day count until we walk across the stage and gain alumni status dwindles to single digits, I look back on our last month as high school students and realize it was not nearly as euphoric as I expected it to be.

The conclusion of our wonder years, this should be the best time of our lives, yet the conclusion of my high school struggle proved just that, a struggle, leaving much to be desired.

In an ideal world, with cameras ready for countless Facebook pictures, high school's end would be comprised of the ever-notorious Senior Prank Week, concluding with the much-storied Lawn Day, as well as the "best night of our lives," Prom.

And though saying goodbye would be sad, the class of 2008 would depart in a vacuum of good memories, most likely set to the score of Vitamin C's "Graduation," or some other tear-jerking sap song.

Yet, despite the highest of expectations, the final weeks of school, for the 40 percent of us going on Senior Project, proved to be none of the above.

With administrators cracking down on anything even mildly resembling a prank, Senior Prank week proved to be far from what I had come to expect. Of course, school officials are right to discipline students who deface others cars, or who are caught in the midst of a late-night prank, sans clothes. But is throwing a dodgeball at a freshman really a suspension-worthy offense? And even Mr. Wessinger had to smile at the sight of his Post-it covered car, that is, if he smiles.

By punishing students engaged in harmless exhibits of class unity and school spirit, school administrators did themselves a disservice and detracted from the sentiment of the week.

Lawn Day, while memorable, also proved slightly empty. Never again will I camp out on the cold, wet mud we call the front lawn, yet somehow, I doubt I will mourn the loss.

But maybe I'm looking at this all wrong. Yes, things weren't quite the emotional climax that television told me they should be, but then again, I wouldn't have wanted it to be like that.

While our final weeks may not have been nearly as glorious as so many of us, myself included, expected, they served as a reminder of the numerous friendships so easily forgotten over the course of four years as well as how much enjoyment can be found in something as trivial as blowing up 4,000 balloons.

TEN THINGS WE LEARNED AT SHAKER

10

After a sixth period Wendy's run, you roll back to Shaker and search the oval for a parking spot. Finally, you spot a space big enough for your car and slide in, just in time for seventh period science. Thanks Shaker, for forcing us to learn how to parallel park.

9

Parents are a useful resource. They may set your curfew and threaten to cut of your text messaging capabilities, but going to Shaker, you've learned that they can also come in handy. Whether they make the call to excuse your mass number of absences or write you a note to get out of gym, Shaker's taught us that when in doubt, call mom.

8

People can be stereotyped not only by physical appearances but also by geographic preferences. Yes, the very door you use to enter the school can say a lot about you. Your friends may ask you to let them in at the skater door after a mid day smoke. And don't be caught in front of the school past 3:30, or be forever branded a front lawn kid.

7

If half of your English class is missing a few days before Thanksgiving, you can guess they are out on business (unless, of course, it is a test day). That's right, they are missing school to impart the message of Shaker's largest organization on elementary school students. But you don't have to go farther than the high school's own cafeteria to see that SGORR's message struggles to stick with students.

6

When times are tough, look for a tennis ball. As Shaker students, we've come to rely on Mr. Hutchinson's inspirational and motivational messages. Whether he's encouraging us to do well in class or rallying up Shakernation on a thunderous Tuesday, we know to turn to Hutch for words of wisdom.

5

We have an innate sense of navigation. With Shaker's crowded hallways and short passing periods, we've developed routes to get to class quickly and catch up with friends along the way. And since the up and down staircase rule, our navigational skills are as sharp as ever.

4

PDA is inappropriate in all situations, unless of course you're at a school dance, in which case it is completely acceptable, and expected, for you to bump, grind and twirk to your heart's content. Intoxication is not a requirement, but it enhances the experience. So let loose, strip down to and oversized t-shirt and a barely-there skirt and dance away.

3

Even though Shaker doesn't offer Italian, you've mastered the language. How is this possible? You've figured out that while the English version of Mozillia Firefox has been banned on school computers, the Italian version is not blocked by the server and can be used to access everything from Facebook to your AOL email account. So Google search it, agree to the download terms and browse away. Congratulazioni!

2

Unless your are an AP scholar, National History Day finalist, a high achieving minority student, student council president, track star, exchange student, future engineer or award winning musician, you'll never find yourself on shaker.org.

1

Your computer freezes just as you type the last sentence of your 10-page research paper. You walk in on your significant other kissing the kid who sits next to you in health class. A security guard catches you on the phone by the large auditorium and forces you to hang up. Thanks to your Shaker education, you have the perfect word to describe these situations. Sawds.

Courtesy of Lisa Buffo

Courtesy of Lisa Buffo

SENIORS SPEND THEIR last day of classes camping out on the front lawn. The concluding phrase of senior prank week is a customary tradition of the senior class. This year seniors began to camp out at 5 am.

Class of 2008, thanks for your support

letter to the editor

To the Class of 2008,

The Brett-Eiger family would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your enduring thoughtfulness, kindness and support over the past 2 years. You are a very special class and you will always be very dear to us. How do we say goodbye to you? You, who have stood by us, have helped us cope and encouraged us to heal. You have been faithful to our Keely's memory and honored her with your loyalty. You have mourned with us, cried with us and laughed with us. Please know we never take you for granted.

We continue to try to get the word out to the community about bipolar disorder and other mental health concerns. Thanks to all who donated to The Bipolar Research Center and the Suicide Prevention Action Network. Much work needs to be done to understand the science of mental illness and how it can be effectively addressed. Perhaps some of you will be in a position some day to professionally pursue these issues and help with the solution.

As you embark on the next step in your journey we wish you much luck and success. Aim high and be true to yourselves, work to fashion your best destiny.

Please know we will always delight to hear from you and that you are welcome to visit with us anytime.

Good luck & good journey,
The Brett-Eiger family